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MONTEREY NEWS

Volume 9

Published Monthly

February 1971

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEARING ON ROUTE 23 WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS FEBRUARY 2, 1971

On February 2, 1971, a public hearing was held by the Massachusetts Department of Public Works on the design of the proposed construction of the westerly 2.8 mile section of Route 23 in Great Barrington and Monterey.

The hearing was held in the basement of the Congregational Church in Monterey and was very well attended. Approximately 150 people were packed into this relatively small area.

A previous hearing on the location of the corridor was held in the same room three years ago after which the DPW selected the so-called "orange" corridor or southerly corridor upon which they proceeded with the design.

A further hearing will be held on the design of the remaining section to the Otis town line as soon as the design has proceeded far enough along to present pertinent details to the public for their comments.

There were many people present to represent both sides of the question and to have their ideas and criticisms included in the official recorded transcript of the hearing.

Basically those proponents in favor of the new two lane highway were the Board of Selectmen, the Planning Board, the Safety Committee, the Police Chief, and a group of interested voters as presented in a petition at the hearing.

Those opposed to the new highway were mainly the Conservation Commission, the Finance Committee and a group known as the "Save Scenic Monterey Committee" who were represented by a Pittsfield attorney.

In addition to those opponents from Monterey there were conservationists from Lenox, Stockbridge, Great Barrington, and Connecticut who spoke out against the project for the record at the hearing.

An interesting sidelight of the hearing was when Senator Hammond, who represents Monterey in the State Senate, asked for a show of hands. Approximately 70 were opposed to the project and 40 were in favor. At this point Senator Hammond stated that he would oppose the project. Although this was irregular for a hearing, it was allowed by Associate Commissioner Foster as a courtesy to the Senator even though the unofficial tally would have no bearing on whether or not the project would be completed.

It was noted that although they did not speak at this meeting, many others were observers such as the Executive Director of the Berkshire County Regional Planning Commission, the Executive Director of the Berkshire Natural Resources Council, the Regional Director of the Department of Natural Resources, and representatives of the Federal Highway Administration of the Department of Transportation.

Generally, those who participated in the hearing conducted themselves in an orderly manner and were a credit to the town.

The people of Monterey should be proud to have among its citizens those who participated in the hearing with only the best interests of the town in mind whether or not they were for or against the new road.

--Dean P. Amidon, District Highway Engineer,
Berkshire County

REPORT OF THE "SAVE SCENIC MONTEREY COMMITTEE"

On February 11, 1971, some 15 members of the "Save Scenic Monterey Committee" drove to Boston to attend the Transportation Committee's hearing on House Bill 288. This bill, which would permit the Department of Public Works to use a portion of Beartown-Swan Forest for the proposed Route 23 bypass, was voted down unanimously by the State Transportation Committee.

TOWN GOVERNMENT



The Board of Selectmen are Mr. Robert Gauthier, chairman of the Board; Mr. Kenneth Heath; and Mr. John Pizzichemi.

Members of the Board of Health are Mr. John Pizzichemi, chairman; Mr. Robert Gauthier; and Mr. Kenneth Heath.

Mrs. John Seifert is secretary to both Boards.

The Board of Selectmen are in the process of appointing committees for the present year and a list of same will be complete by the first of March.

The other contested Town Offices were filled following the February 13 Town Meeting as follows:

Cemetery Committee: Anne Marie Makuc

Planning Board: Ann Van Horn

Finance Committee: Henry Makuc

Park Commissioner: Frances Amidon

Board of Appeals: Maurice Roberts, Maureen Bradley

Mr. Ted Falcon is our Police Chief, and the officers on his staff are James Dutcher, Arthur Hastedt, Mrs. Kitty Hastedt, Douglas Lyman, and Leroy Thorpe. Mr. Falcon announced that the townspeople will be provided with twenty-four hour service and protection. An automatic answering service will take calls and provide information when Chief Falcon is out of his office on calls or performing other duties.

Mr. Pizzichemi has announced a comprehensive program on the sanitary laws and licenses required, the continued high standards required of all camps, and the inspection of same before licenses will be issued.

The contest for the proposed new seal for the Town of Monterey was very successful and the winning design will be announced in March. The seal must then be approved by the Commonwealth.

Plans for the Town Hall were presented but it was voted not to raise the necessary funds by bond issue for this purpose and not to continue the Building Committee. Appreciation was expressed to Carol Sue Donelan for her five years of work as chairman.

The proposed new Route 23 is at a standstill for the present as a result of the opinions and actions evidenced at the recent Design Hearing. We will keep you informed as to change or progress on this important matter as well as on the Garfield Dam Project. It is a slow process, but be assured that all is being done that can be done.

Marie A. Seifert

Editor's Note: We hope to have a detailed report on the Garfield Dam Project in the next issue.

THE PHILERGIANS

The Philergians will meet on Wednesday, March 3, at 8:00 P.M. at the home of Mrs. Virgil Brallier.

Our program, "An Hour of Good Samaritans", will be led by Mrs. Brallier and will include the participation of those present.

All women of the community are cordially invited.

Marie Brallier

SCHOOL NEWS

The New Marlboro-Monterey P.T.A. has made \$762 to date on its candy sale for the Hazel Hendrick Scholarship Fund. More is expected.

On February 22 at 8:00 P.M. the P.T.A. will have as guest speaker Mr. Gyorgy Jasza who will have moving pictures about Vietnam.

Ruth Champigny

THE MONTEREY GRANGE

Monterey Grange is sponsoring a series of card parties, the first to be held February 22. If the weather is bad the alternate date is March 1. Reservations may be made by calling Mrs. Floyd McKay, 528-3034.

We are trying to get new members, especially young people, for our spring class in April.

The Grange, I believe, is the only organization where parents and children meet together for an evening of entertainment.

Our next meeting will be held on February 17. The business meeting will be followed by Pirate Bingo. Each member should bring a small item for a prize.

Eva H. Jespersen

"The movements which work revolutions in the world are born out of the dreams and visions in a peasant's heart on the hillside. For him the earth is not an exploitable ground but a living mother."

--James Joyce, ULYSSES

SOCIETY: DECAY AND RENEWAL

All human institutions have elements of decay and destruction within them. As institutions age they experience aspects of senility just as surely as do aging individuals. Right now Western civilization is facing an especially difficult time in all its various branches. Government is staggering under its own weight and losing the power to govern. The traditional form of the family is under serious assault, and its sickness is on display all around us. The church is not giving clear evidence that it is a channel of faith for many and is floundering over the preservation of its own life. The dream of science has been to make life better and better for man, and yet the technology we have created with the aid of science is currently in the process of doing in our environment.

Turn which ever way we will and the word is crisis. The crisis has to do with the impotence and decay of the various social establishments upon which we have been depending.

What is the response of the great majority of us to an ailing institution--especially if we are a part of that institution? First of all, we usually try to defend it against all critics and criticism. Second, when it is obvious that its illness is making it clearly deficient in performing its function we agree to some "adjustments", yet all the while resisting radical change. Beyond this, most of us run out of both imagination and courage. The decay continues. The malfunctioning increases. Yet we hang on to what we know, with all its glaring imperfections, because we are fearful of alternatives we cannot see. A striking example of this is our nation's current welfare system. For at least 10 years there have been strong indications that the system was doing as much to perpetuate poverty as to alleviate it. Yet we have had neither the imagination or the courage to do anything but tinker with our welfare establishment. All the while its decay and malfunction are reaching a shrieking crescendo. This is but one example. Similar situations can be found in most of our current establishments.

This may be regarded as an extremely pessimistic viewpoint. Indeed, human history is littered with the remains of social systems that have crumbled even while men were still trying to pump life into them. The fatality rate of men's social systems is a high one.

One thing becomes clear. If an institution is failing to meet the needs of people it is scheduled for the dust-bin of history. Is this true pessimism that sees useless systems dying and passing from the scene? Maybe it is not really pessimism at all, but rather a profound demand running through life for vitality and relevance.

Some of the Old Testament prophets swallowed hard, but in the end they came up with the view that God himself was participating in the destruction of unjust human institutions--even their own cherished institutions. View it as the action of God or see it as the result of failing truly to serve the needs of man, it comes out very much the same.

Human institutions should remember that they live under the hammer of history. Sentiment and veneration are not enough to keep them alive. Only those institutions that accept radical change are likely to survive in a time of rapid change. Radical change means that we must do the changing at the "roots" and not just on the surface of things.

It appears that a powerful mandate is now being delivered to all the institutions of Western Civilization. It has to do with the kind of changes that are necessary to survive and serve. But really the mandate is much more personal. It is to you and me. We have a high stake in keeping society workable. This is no time for wringing our hands in despair. And it certainly is no time to shrug our shoulders. It is time for us to get to work down at the root of things. Every last one of us. Without change at the root we will have only decay. If we wait for the decay to run its course then the renewal will eventually come. It will be that new life which always keeps springing up out of the decayed remains of the old.

—Virgil V. Brallier, minister
Monterey United Church

OUR CHURCHES

Our Lady of the Hills, Monterey -- Masses during the summer only.

Immaculate Conception Church, Mill River -- Sunday Mass at 10:00 A. M.

United Church of Christ

NOTES Morning worship is each Sunday at 10:30 A.M. . . . Baptism: Heidi Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Steuerwald on January 24. The Rev. Hampton E. Price officiated. . . . Boy Scout Sunday was observed on February 14 with Scout Troop 39 attending in a body. The Scoutmaster is Douglas Lyman. Scouts who took special responsibilities in the service were: Scott Jenssen, Robert Dugan, David Campbell, Douglas Lyman, Jr., and Matthew Clark.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM Beginning on February 28, the next six week term for our children will begin and continue through Palm Sunday. Sessions will meet at 10:30 A.M., at the same time as Morning Worship. Mrs. Eleanor Newey, Director of Christian Education, is developing a course dealing with prominent Bible characters. The teachers for this term will be Mrs. Paul Thorn and Mr. and/or Mrs. John Ryder. Another six week term will be offered shortly following Easter. The confirmation class will meet at 9:30 A.M. during the same dates the children's classes are running.

LENTEN DISCUSSION SERIES "Major Human Problems" is to be the theme of a series of five Thursday evening discussions during Lent. The schedule is as follows:

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|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| March 4: | "Poverty and the Welfare System" |
| March 11: | "The Environment and Its Destruction" |
| March 18: | "War and the Search for Peace" |
| March 25: | "Racism and Minorities" |
| April 1: | "Crime: Causes and Cures" |

These discussions will be at 7:30 P.M. in the social room of the church. The setting will be around a table with plenty of coffee, tea. . . or other. The way of getting into these discussions will be through games or movies that help us to personally and emotionally identify with the problems. The aim is not to try in the limited scope of an evening to take a comprehensive view of these problems, but to open up the human dimensions for our greater understanding.

Anyone in the community who is interested is invited. A person may come for one session in particular or all of them. Perhaps the most deadly force that prevents effective dealing with these massive human problems is apathy. The feeling that one person can accomplish nothing shuts us off from trying to do anything. Our hope is to make some small dent in breaking into these critical areas of man's life today. Consider yourself invited.

LENTEN SERMONS During Lent the sermons Dr. Brallier will be giving are on the theme, "Love and the Claim of Christ." They are designed to provide a meeting ground between the teachings of Jesus and the needs and conditions of our kind of world. Morning worship is at 10:30 A.M. each Sunday. The sermon schedule follows:

- | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|
| February 28 | "Love Yourself" |
| March 7 | "Love Can Create and Guide Growth" |
| March 14 | Guest Minister |
| March 21 | "Love Can Share" |
| March 28 | "Love Is Undefeatable" |
| April 4 | "Love and the Cross" |

GOULD FARM CONCERT

In Commemoration of Washington and Lincoln

FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 7:30 P.M.

Admission Free

Community Singing and Soloists

* Accompanied by psaltry, recorder, and autoharp

MUSIC FOR SOLO CLARINET

RECORDER ENSEMBLE PIANO DUETS CREATIVE DANCE

Visiting Performers: Rosemary Shea and Kathleen King

Rose Jockwig, director

CUB SCOUTS

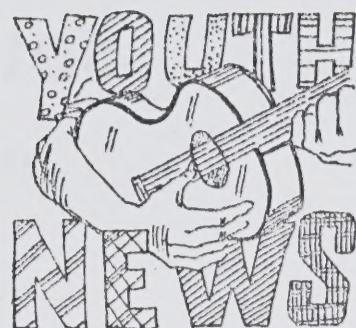
On January 29 the Cub Scouts held a pack meeting with the Sandisfield dens in the Congregational Church basement. The theme in January was stars. We did a short skit about a space ship taking off from Barrington Airport in 2171 A.D. Mr. McGregor and Mr. Eason from the Boy Scouts were guests.

Mark Makuc received his Wolf Badge with one gold and one silver arrow.

Most everyone was out in sub-zero weather and at all hours looking at stars and their constellations.

This month's theme is American heritage. A Blue and Gold Dinner is planned for February 26 at Sandisfield.

Pat Andrus



JUNIOR HI YOUTH GROUP

The Junior Hi Youth Group had a major activity on Saturday, February 20, when it sponsored a sock hop entitled "The Way I Walk." All members of the group organized to plan, publicize, provide refreshments, and in general bring off a successful enterprise. The object was, first of all, to provide an evening of good recreation not only for themselves but for other junior high youth in the area. Secondly, they had an eye on making some money for their organization. We are happy to report that both objectives were accomplished on a modest scale. Another value they hadn't counted on was the great experience they developed in planning and carrying off such an activity.

Virgil Brallier

MONTEREY YOUTH GROUP

The Monterey Youth Group had a wonderful time this past week-end skiing at Stowe, Vermont. The 12 of us stayed at Misty Meadow Farm, a resident dormitory-horse ranch run by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Goeltz. The girls did a marvelous job of preparing delicious meals and the fellows even helped with dishwashing. Even though the slopes were icy we all had a good time just being together.

Cris Criswell

BROWNIES

The Brownies have been busy in preparation for Valentine's Day. Their parents should indeed be delighted with some of the valentines they have made.

Elizabeth Pizzichemi

REPORTERS

Cub Scouts	
Pat Andrus	528-2044
Girl Scouts	
Mary Thorn (or O'Connell)	-1644
Boy Scouts	
Douglas Lyman	-0752
Brownies	
Elizabeth Pizzichemi	-2020
4-H	
Lois Ryder	-2548
Avalon School	
Amiel Segal	-0080
School News and P.T.A.	
Ruth Champigny	-2856
Margaret Vorck	-3653
Youth	
Donna Brallier	-1031
Cris Criswell	-4059
Grange	
Eva Jespersen	-2633
Philergians	
Marie Brallier	-1031
Library	
Anne Makuc	-0150
Monterey Historical Society	
Sally Fijux	-3044
Ladies' Aid	
Stella Howes	-3542
Catholic Church	
Pat Andrus	-2044
Town	
Marie Seifert	-2656

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SERVICES DIRECTORY

B R O O K B E N D I N N

The editors would welcome creative material for publication from our readers, on matters of interest or of esthetic value. (Authors and poets take notice!) The deadline for material is the loth of the month.

"A little water will put out the fire. But wait. A little wood will keep it breathing."

--Mark Van Doren

Dinner

Week-days : 6:00-9:00 P.M.
Sat.& Sun.: 1:00-9:00 P.M.

Bar Open
1:00 P.M.-1:00 A.M.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Contributions have continued to come in to help the MONTEREY NEWS overcome the budgetary difficulties it had in the first year of its existence. As indicated in an earlier issue, the Monterey United Church budgeted \$200.00 to set up this experiment to see if something could be done to improve the channels of communication. In actual practice it turned out that the budgeted amount was far short of providing for the actual cost.

Many persons have indicated that the MONTEREY NEWS is providing a vital service and the response has been thoroughly heartening.

Contributions that have come in since the last issue are from the following: Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Bowles, Mrs. William Bruning, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Buchanan, Ruth Carr, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. L. Darling, Kathleen A. Duff, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Enlund, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Freundlich, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Freundlich, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gillis, Marilou Hamer, Jack Hargis, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hebert, Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Helmrich, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hepp, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Kraft, Helen McKay, the Rev. Arthur J. Monk, Mr. and Mrs. George Reading, J. M. Schlegel, Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Schlichter, Mr. and Mrs. John Sferra, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Slaughter, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wocel.

"Beautiful it is to see and understand that no worth, known or unknown, can die even on this earth. The work an unknown good man has done is like a vein of water flowing hidden underground, secretly making the ground green. It flows and flows; it joins itself with other veins and veinlets; and one day it will start forth as a visible perennial spring."

--Carlyle

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